

REMARKS

The claims are 5 and 6.

The above amendment is responsive to points set forth in the Official Action.

Claims 1 to 4 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Morgan et al. in view of NCI-Antioxidant Cancer Prevention, for reasons of record, and further in view of Buchter-Larsen et al. (U.S. 6,914,175), Behrend et al. (Biochemical Society Transaction, Vol. 31, part 6, pages 1441-1444 (2003)), Yamaji et al. and Vieira et al.

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 2, directed to a pharmaceutical composition, have been cancelled. The antitumor component in previous claim 3 (new claim 5) is directed to a method for treatment employing only "ascopyrone" (1,5-D-anhydrofructose has been deleted).

New claim 6, which replaces previous claim 4, defines the ascopyrone as ascopyrone P.

None of the six cited references disclose or suggest the subject matter of above new claim 5, that is, ascopyrone (APP) which induces apoptosis of the tumor cells and kills the tumor cells directly. Therefore, the six prior art references fail to suggest that a patient having tumor cells can be cured by administering APP.

Consequently, new claims 5 and 6 are in no way obvious over the cited six prior art references.

No further issues remaining, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact undersigned at the telephone below.

Respectfully submitted,

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